



## Commonwealth of Kentucky Labor Cabinet

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Crane Composites Earns SHARP Status for Excellence in Safety**

*Northern Kentucky manufacturer joins elite group of safety-minded companies*

**FLORENCE, Ky. (Aug. 15, 2014)** – Secretary Larry L. Roberts of the Kentucky Labor Cabinet today presented Crane Composites in Florence a plaque and a flag signifying the company's certification under the Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP).

"Crane Composites has spent nearly a year and a half working toward this goal, and now that effort is paying off," said Secretary Roberts. "This is a significant accomplishment that deserves a lot of credit, and it shows the company's high level of commitment to the safety and health of its workers."

Crane Composites Inc., a subsidiary of Crane Co., is the world's leading provider of fiber-reinforced composite materials. The Florence facility has been in operation for more than four decades, and currently has approximately 110 employees.

"This is a great accomplishment by our Florence team," said Jeff Craney, president of Crane Composites Inc. "It is a reflection of each individual's commitment to safety and the safety of their co-workers. We appreciate the recognition from the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and are committed to continuing to improve the safety performance of our facility."

Of the approximately 2,000 eligible facilities in Kentucky, Crane Composites is one of only 21 total active facilities certified for SHARP designation. To qualify for SHARP, Crane had to undergo a comprehensive evaluation and series of audits, correct any identified hazards, demonstrate that effective safety and health programs are in place, and maintain injury rates below the national average for its industry for the last three years.

The Florence facility has an average recordable injury incident rate of 2.1 per 100 full-time employees during the past three years, which is 61 percent lower than the national industry average of approximately 5.4. Those totals include total recordable cases of all non-fatal injuries and illnesses. Recordable cases involve all work-related injuries and illnesses that result in days away from work, restricted work or transfer to another job, loss of consciousness or medical treatment beyond first aid.

The U.S. Department of Labor designed SHARP to encourage and recognize excellence in occupational safety and health among employers and create a proactive partnership with its Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Although companies must meet federal standards for the program, the Kentucky Labor Cabinet presents the award, as Kentucky has operated its own federally-approved Occupational Safety and Health program (KYOSH) for more than 40 years.

Companies must have a safety and health program that engages all employees in finding and correcting existing or possible future hazards. SHARP's certification is good for two years, and then the company is eligible for renewal. A company is exempted from scheduled KYOSH compliance inspections during the certification period, but works with KYOSH to continue striving to improve its safety program.

There are multiple benefits of SHARP designation, including protecting employees by removing safety and health hazards, creating a safety culture, building a reputation as a safe workplace, and saving money by lowering worker compensation insurance premiums, reduction in turnover and increased productivity due to fewer days away from work.

Participation in SHARP does not eliminate the responsibilities of owners or rights of workers under the Occupational Safety and Health Act. The following types of incidents can trigger an enforcement inspection at SHARP sites: a formal complaint, fatality, imminent danger situation and any other significant incident.

For more on the SHARP program, click [here](#).

For details on Crane Composites, visit [www.cranecomposites.com](http://www.cranecomposites.com).

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